

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /081 W

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R 132126 FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2498

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEGUCIGALPA 0825

FOR AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, HO

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON COFFEE PRICE INCREASES,
HONDURAS

REF: STATE 034044

1. THE INTERNAL PRICE OF COFFEE BEFORE AND AFTER THE BRAZILIAN FROST WAS SEVENTY CENTS WHOLESALE AND SEVENTY FIVE CENTS RETAIL UNDER GOVERNMENT PRICE CONTROLS. A CHANGE IN THIS PRICE IS DUE THIS WEEK. A CHANGE IN THE PRICE PAID TO PRODUCERS HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED AS OF THIS WEEK (MID-FEBRUARY).

2. THE PRICE PAID BY DOMESTIC PRODUCERS WAS THRITY FIVE CENTS BEFORE THE BRAZILIAN FROST, FIFTY FOUR CENTS FOLLOWING THE FROST, AND HAS RISEN TO SEVENTY TWO POINT FIVE CENTS THIS WEEK.

3. THE HONDURAN GOVERNMENT ABIDES BY THE INTERNATIONAL RETENTION AGREEMENTS. SECONDLY, THE GOVERNMENT HAS AN EXPORT TAX. THE TAX IS TEN PERCENT ON THE VALUE OF A BAG FOR ALL VALUES BELOW FIFTY DOLLARS. THERE IS A TAX OF FIFTEEN PERCENT ON
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THE VALUE OBTAINED FOR A BAG SOLD AT BETWEEN FIFTY DOLLARS
AND SIXTY DOLLARS. THERE IS A TWENTY PERCENT TAX PER BAG
ON ALL VALUE RECEIVED ABOVE SIXTY DOLLARS PER BAG.

4. THE INSTITUTO HONDURENO DE CAFE (IHC) HAS AN INTENSIVE
PROGRAM TO PROVIDE CREDIT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO COFFEE
GROWERS.

5. THE ABOVE INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED FROM ROLANDO LOPEZ OF THE
IHC.
SANCHEZ

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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04 MAY 2006

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